

**REMARKS**

Claim 5 is cancelled without prejudice. The features of claim 5 have been incorporated into independent claim 4. Thus, claim 4 remains for consideration in this application in addition to claims 1-3 and 6-8, already allowed.

**Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishigaki (USP 6,246,180) taken with Matsumoto (Pub. No. 2004/0095299).**

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that claim 5 contains allowable subject matter but is objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim. Accordingly, as set forth above, claim 5 has been cancelled without prejudice and claim 4 has been amended to include the features of claim 5. Accordingly, claim 4 now represents claim 5 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, it is submitted that the above rejection should now be withdrawn.

Applicant also wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1-3 and 6-8 are allowed.

In view of the amendments to the claims, and the remarks set forth above, Applicant submits that the Examiner's objection and rejection have been overcome. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection and rejection be withdrawn and that claim 4 be allowed in addition to claims 1-3 and 6-8, already allowed.

Application No. 10/772,288  
Art Unit: 2629

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111  
Attorney Docket No.: 042228

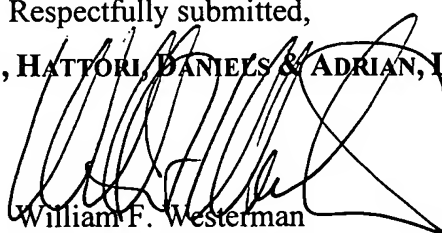
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,  
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